The National Era is Published Weekly, on Seventh Street, opposite Odd Fellows' Hall. He turned, and saw a figure just seating itself, tailor fashion, in the corner of the great set tle, that in those days answered the purpose TERMS. of our sofas, whose singularly elongated head,

TERMS.

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. For the National Era.

MOLLY GRAHAM:

OR. HOW JOHNNY WON HIS FIDDLE

A TALE OF THE REVOLUTION.

BY MARTHA RUSSELL. Bill Glover was in high spirits, as might be judged by his obstreperous merriment, which was by no means checked by the sight of the epaulette and plume of the young officer; for as soon as he was ithin hailing distance, he

called out, pointing to the venison borne by "Halloo, Leftenant! jest in time, man. Look here! ye don't get such fodder as that every day, up at old Put's quarters, yonder!"

day, up at old Put's quarters, yonder!"

No," returned the young man, as the group came up, "not if we are to take those last beeves we had of you as a standard. Why, man, they were more fit for saddles and boots, than for lood for Christian men."

You don't say so, Leftenant," said Glover, with a waggish kind of leer. "Wal, I never suspicioned before that ye called yerselves exactly members up there : besides, the fact is, knowd ye hadn't much to do since old Put growl sent the red-coats westward; so I thought, jest to keep ye from getting lazy, and falling into the devil's clutches, I'd keep yer jaws agoin. All for the good of the country, Leftenant—yaw! haw! haw!"

"Was that the reason why you drove the finest and fattest of the lot over the line into York, in the night, and sold them to Garth's asked the young man, suddenly turning upon the hunter, or whatever he chose to be called, a glance that seemed to pierce

him through. rassed, but as quicky rallying, he said, in a

tone of well-feigned surprise—
"Sold 'em to Garth! Aye, yer at yer old tricks now, tryin' to bamboozle a poor feller. Hark ye, Glover," interrupted the young

man, gravely, "there is a whisper affoat in the camp, that you have played some such game I do not say it is so-in fact, I do not credit it for after your own fashion, I have always found you true. But a hint never comes amiss to a wise man; and let me tell you, should the slightest proof that you are playing a double game reach General Putnam's ears, he will ang you higher than Haman.

Not a doubt on't, Leftenant, not a rational he added, dropping the butt of his gun on the ground, and leaning over the muzzle in a way that might have proved dangerous to a person not born to be hung, "what can a feller do that haint no stomach for herry-skerryin over the ountry arter the tap of a drum or the squeal fafife, but would be glad to get an honest mouthfull for his woman and brats, and drink his grog and smoke his pipe under his own fig-tree in peace, as the Bible says? If he don't take nary side, (though, for that matter, if I must speak right out, there would be no you call him a man of doubtful principles, and both parties suspicion him, and flusticate all manner of lies about him. It is dubious knowin what teu do, Leftenant."

"Perhaps it is in your case," replied the young man, with a smile; "but whatever else you may do," he added, gravely, "be sure you keep your fingers free from British gold, and your ears from Tory tamperings. Did you find means to deliver my note !"

"I made means, Leftenant. Catch Bill as that for a friend. The individooal consarne got it in due order, signed, sealed, and deliver as the lawyer chaps say. But come, Lefteen minutes on a stretch, without wetting my pipes. Walk in, and take something. There is a drop or teu of rael old Jamaky in the case, to say nothing of Hetty's two-year-old metheg-

The officer was about to refuse, but seeing a shadow of disappointment gathering on the brow of the hunter, and having reasons of his flung his bridle to the gaping Bill, and entered the house, whither Mat Jennings and the two lads had preceded them with their game. Offering his guest a seat, Bill proceeded to hang up his gun in its usual resting-place above the fire-place, and to divest himself of his leathern belt and its accompaniments, which were also suspended from wooden hooks on the ceiling, which was plentifully garnished with implements of hunting and trophies of success, in the shape of stags, horns and stuffed

All was bustle and confusion in the apart ed round the young Nimrods, listening to their relation of the exploits of the chase; Mat Jennings quietly sharpened his knife on the rub-stone he had taken from the kitchen shelf. unmoved by the clamor about him; Hetty di-vided her attention between the dough in the tray and a most delicious looking loaf that was baking in a shallow kettle over the fire, while Molly Graham's wheel was set back against the wall, and the maiden herself engaged in sifting a quantity of golden-hued

The young man had scarcely completed his survey of the apartment, before he was rouse survey of the apartment, before he was roused by his host's voice, calling on his wife to bring out the case-bottles, and an order for some one of the urchins to bring a pail of fresh water: but as they did not seem to heed or even hear him, he turned to Molly, and added—

It is utterly impossible to make those brats know anything as long as there is game in the house. Here, Molly, ye're the only one that knows whether they are on their heels or their heads, ye go. Haze, girl, haze!" Then turn-ing to his guest, with a laugh, he said—"It's a good deal of a chore teu make sech a pack toe the mark, as ye'll find out one of these days,

"They are a healthy-looking set of children. How many do you number?" said the young

more plague than profit, any time; but there is allers enough of them in a poor man's house," was the curt reply of the woman to whom the question had been more particularly addressed, as she placed the bottles on the

table.

The young man did not venture another query; but as Molly Graham entered at that moment, with a brimming pail of water, in obedience to his host's invitation, he walked up to the table, where he lost cote with all the members of the family, save the mother and Molly, by preferring a cup of her metheglin to the imported strong waters. In the midst of the jungling of glasses and the clamor of the children for the sugar in the bottom of the cups, the officer was startled at hearing sung in a not very strong, but exquisitely sweet voice.

The pipe it is so lily white, In which so many take delight, It's broke at a touch, And man's life is such; Think of this when you make

joints, proved him to be one of those victims of hereditary disease or neglect, known as "rickety" children. A pair of preternaturally bright eyes, whose expression was a singular blending of waggish vivacity and distrust glanced like light from one person of the group to another, until they finally rested on Molly, and with a peculiarly significant nod, he again struck into a song:

"A wealthy young squire a courting did ride, With sword and pistols hung by his side; As he was a riding he chanced for to see A beautiful damsel, her name 'twas Polly'."

The girl colored, and Bill Glover laughed as he called out—"Ye've missed it this time, Johnny. This is Leftenant Stanforth, lad, who's got other business besides hunting dam-sels." he added, with a knowing wink at his guest, "though mebby he'll scare up some sech game one of these days, but it'll fly a peg or two higher than cousin Molly, I reckon. You sing better than old Pete Byington and his pitchpipe to boot. Come here, lad, and ou shall taste a drop of the rael genuine. There was observable a new element in Bill Glover's voice, as he addressed his unfortunate child-a kind of rude tenderness, and something in the boy's tone responded to it, as he

"Johnny don't want a drop; Johnny wants a fiddle, like old Cato's !" "A fiddle! and what would you do with it, my lad?" asked the young officer, curiously.
"Play out the songs that dance in Johnny's

head o'nights, and keep him from sleeping, like Dave and Riah," was the grum reply. "You shall have one, lad," replied the officer, smiling. "Some years ago, I bought a fiddle, and tried to play some of the songs that run in my head; but the war gave me some-thing else to do. You shall have that one. Don't forget to remind me of it next time you come up to the camp, Glover," he added, turn-

ing to the father. The speaker was amply rewarded by the pleasure that danced in Johnny's eyes, to say nothing of the grateful glance of Molly Graham, and the really pleased look of the careworn Hetty.

After interchanging a few low words with Bill, the young man mounted, and rode rapidly forward to overtake his party, while Glenn and Jennings applied themselves to dressing their

Young Stanforth is bound for Four Corners, I reckon," said Jennings, at length. "Aye, more rakin and scrapin of ammuni-tion. Old Put is rather hard run, I guess. Only

t'other day they melted up all the clock weights in R. into bullets, and now they'll take a feller's coat buttons and shoe buckles—take care, Riah! What are you about? They might run yer head into bullets without much trouble, you numbskull. I'll tell ye what, Mat, things are gettin to look pretty considerable dubious on our side—that's a fact."
"Our side, Bill?" said the other, significant-

The man looked grave for a second, and then answered, with his usual reckless laugh—that's uppermost, and arn't old Put at the top

Supper was over in the household of Bill Glover, and the younger portion had gradually sought their sleeping quarters in the loft above, while Mat and Bill had gone out, as they said, to look after certain traps they had set up the valley. Johnny, who, whether it was owing, as he said, to the music in his head or to dis-ease, seldom slept like other people, was still up, his bright eyes looking like lamps in the darkness.

ew under-jacket?" asked the mother, observ ing that that garment was missing.

"Hung it in a bush down by the pole where

Johnny watched the fishes, mum," was the re-

"Why, how could ye—yer bran new coat, made out of grannie's old red cloak! Do ye march straight down and get it, this min-

"Johnny shan't, though. He's tired enough, now," was the decided reply.

Seeing that the mother was about to force the lad to go, a proceeding always useless and worse than useless with him, Molly offered to go herself after the missing article. The lightfooted maiden soon cleared the space between the house and the spot indicated by the boy, and worse the alders at the seafer of the and upon the alders, at the end of the mossy pole, hung the object of her search. She was about to retrace her steps, when the sound of voices up the stream arrested her attention She recognised them at once, as those of Bill Glover and Jennings, and the few words that she caught filled her with surprise and alarm. "So you never give him her note, nor nary-ways let him suspicion that old Andrews was gwine to take the game across the Sound to safer quarters?" said Jennings.

"No: all I telled him was, that she got the

letter safe and sound; and I rather guess she did, for if old Andrews didn't read it to her, I miss my guess. Lord, how the old sinner rated when, arter pinnin him down to doing the right thing. I give it to him!"

A change in the position of the speakers, of a bull in the wind that swept down the valler rendered the next sentences indistinct; but from her knowledge of the parties alluded to and the characters of the speakers, she was easily enabled to make out what followed.

"I tell you," said the voice of Jennin "that you are in for it a-ready. That fellow was right. Let old Put catch but the least breath of our doings across the line, and be hang ye higher than Haman."
"As well die for an old sheep as a lamb,

spose," returned Glover, "but somehow I'd a leetle ruther not dip too deep into the levil's broth. I don't mind keepin back a devi's broth. I don't mind keepin back a love-letter or so, or givin one up to old Andrews now and then, allers provided he chalked up handsomely, for I've got a score of mouths to feed, and he that provideth not for his own household is wus than infidel," as the Bible says. "Besides, I know'd that the young folks would carry their sould be a love to the same than folks would carry their part in the end; there's a spark in young Stanforth's eye, and taint wantin in the gal's nuther, that makes that as clear as preachin, to my mind. But as to givin up the lad to Tryon, it goes a leetle agin the grain. The lad's father did me a kind turn once, and it would set kinder oncomfortable on my conscience, if he

harm through my means."
"Not half so oncomfortable as the rope 'll set round your neck one of these days. They've got scent of a thing or two now, up there, it seems, now. But every one to their notion. I only mentioned it 'cause I thought you wouldn't have no onconquerable objections to a handful or two of yellow pieces with King

George's image and superscription on 'em."

"That's a fact, Mat; I've fingered their cussed Continental stuff so long that I'd almost forgot how a guinea looked when we got them from Garth. Still, I was allers a leetle soft-hearted, and — ef I was only sartain the Leftenant wouldn't come to harm—any mor-

"All the harm he'll come to will be an imprisonment a few weeks, until he can get exchanged. No fear but Shelden will move heaven and earth to get him back, for he's a sort o' prime mover in his troops. That's all, unless ye call losing his sweetheart a harm; but there are folks in the world who would differ from ye there. Besides, he can't lose what he never had nor never's like ter, for that matter. that matter; for old Andrews swears he shall never have her; and what's more, he swears that Garth's nephew, young Lansing shall— and there's no question about it, but what the gal herself would be willin enough, if Stanforth

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1852. Cove to-night. He's to make his way up here lie hid at old Andrews's until to-morrow night.

when he is to escort the old man and Miss Annie to the Cove and take them across the Sound. I know he would give a good round sum to get this young spark out on the way and you've only to tell him how the land lies—if
'he'll double his troops, and hurry on to-night,
he can kill two birds with one stone. But he
must be quick, and get back and under sail before daylight to-morrow mornin, or old Put 'll be down upon him like a judgment.' "Why don't ye go yerself, Mat?" asked Bill

after a pause.
"Cause I must see old Andrews, and get him
"Cause I must see old Andrews, and get him ready to start. To be sure, you might do this but then the old man haint no great likin for you; besides, you know, you are neutral, Bill and he might suspicion some trick."

"There's little love lost between us-the cantankerous old rascal. Ef twarnt for making him shell out handsomely, I wouldn't stir Well, a feller must do suthin to get an honest livin. I wonder where the horses are. "In the three-square. I put up the bars my-

Molly shrank deeper into the thicket of alhe could no longer hear their voices, she sprang to her feet, and stood for some moments gazing round with a bewildered air, as if not mite certain that she had not been dreaming but the sound of falling bars and the echo of a horse's steps convinced her of the truth of what she had heard, and filled her with terror and distress. Though she had never heard young Stanforth speak before that day, there was a bit of romance connected with his history, that gave him a peculiar interest in the eyes of all true-hearted maidens. From early boyhood he had been the acknowledged lover of Annie Atwater, the only daughter of a distinguished patriot of his native town. A year or more previous to the commencement of our story, the betrothal of the young couple had been sanctioned by her father, and a day appointed for their marriage. Before that period arrived, 'Squire Atwater was killed in a skirmish with the British troops; and a will, made some years before, consigned the young lady and her large possessions to the sole guardian-ship of a half-brother of his, a most violent Tory. This gentleman, Simeon Andrews, at once signified to young Stanforth that he had other views for his niece, and forbade him his house. He soon learned that the young lady possessed no small share of her father's high spirit, and he found it necessary to resort to me more stringent methods to prevent her seeing or communicating with her lover. Report said that Miss Annie was little better than a prisoner, and the fact that she was not permitted to hold any intercourse with her father's old friends seemed to prove it true. But young Stanforth was not a man to yield his bride for a trifle; and Bill Glover, the neutral, partly from a desire to spite Mr. Andrews, whom he disliked, and partly because his unconquerable laziness made it impossible to refuse the bribe which the young man offered, readily promised to find means to transmit

Besides, Molly Graham, of all maidens, had a particular reason for feeling a warm interest in young Stanforth; for in that gentleman's own troop there was a certain young soldier, quite as brave and quite as leal-hearted, who was never weary of praising his favorite officer, and every word his voice uttered, Molly believed in her heart of hearts. Though she did not understand Mat Jennings's allusion to the letter—for Bill had kept his secret from his own family—she knew that separation, danger, perhaps death, awaited the lovers; and her one who claimed kinship to her, even though it was only as the husband of her mother's brother's widow, should be guilty of such baseness. Well knowing that there was no one in secret, for the Tory interest prevailed there, and trembling with terror at the thought of the responsibility resting upon her, she covered her face with her hands, and gave vent to her distress in the usual feminine ejaculation-"Oh dear! what shall I do?"

[TO BE CONTINUED.] DEMOCRACY OF SCIENCE.-No. 11. BY JOSIAH HOLBROOK

The power for good or for evil embodied in the muscle, mind, and soul of six millions of young Americans is without limits. Properly directed and applied, it may revolutionize the world and uplift humanity. By two modes of world and upfit humanity. By two modes of action it may give great energy and progress to the "Democracy of Science;" exploring the natural recourses of our country, and sketching, by original drawings, the works of nature and of art—both for "Exchances" with each other. To enlist them in either work—better both united—they need only permission. The muscle, mind, and soul of each would come with all promptness and energy to the work, and each power and each individual society strength from all the rest.

al receive strength from all the rest.

This "Great System" is already in vigorous progress and rapidly maturing in the following order: County Commissioners or Su-perintendents of Schools hold "Scholars AIRS" in each township, precinct, or election district, in their respective counties. At each exhibition, every school in the town or district is represented by pupils and their products. Each exhibits reading, penmanship, drawings, needlework, mechanism, minerals, plants, and

needlework, mechanism, minerals, plants, and other works of nature and art, especially singing in concert tunes previously selected and learnt for the occasion. Maps of school districts are among the drawings, and well if from surveys made by the pupils themselves. Before closing the Exhibitions, a portion of the specimens collected are exchanged among the schools producing them, making liberal donations to the Superintendent in behalf of nations to the Superintendent, in behalf of "FAIRS" to be held in other places, under his supervision. Thus, in the true spirit of "DE-MOCRACY," each school district forms itself into "BUREAU OF EDUCATION;" aye, and of Ag-iculture too, every pupil in each being a participator, both in giving and receiving. By the separate and joint efforts of the several school districts in the town, and all the pupils in each, an "EXCHANGE DEPOSITORY" is established at some central commodious point, as a place of resort, instruction, and kind reciprocation for

This plan of production and reciprocation. commencing with districts and towns, is at once extended from towns to counties, from counties to States, from States to the Union, and from continent to continent, having the world for its field, with the human family for the laborers. The very essence of the plan is to promote the diffusion and put checks upon consolidation of science and its numero

attendant blessings.
The maturing of "THE GREAT SYSTEM," already moving with mighty energy, is as certain, in the current of events, as is the deposit-ing in the Atlantic ocean a tributary of the Amazon. Six millions of "minute soldiers," are waiting and eager for an onset, always equipped with muscle, mind, and soul, know-ing nothing but victory; sure to take good aim at the heart, but never known to draw a drop of blood. Surrender, immediate and uncondi-tional, is always offered before it is demanded. Knowing, producing, and reciprocating, the three great purposes of human existence, are science, wealth, and morals, have only to re- more. quest them to gather some letter, word, or line,

For the National Era. SONNETS FOR THE TIMES.

THE RIGHTS OF WOMAN-THE AUTHOR OF UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

But has she so improved her present field With all the noble fruits 'tis formed to yield That she may budge not till she has converted A wider to her use? Would not more douts In her present sphere, be better argument Than empty words, for widening its extent-

The very argument the subject needs? For answer, take our noble countrywoman She's shown her sex divine as well as human: Peerless in Mental Power and Moral Beauty ; And how? By simply doing her Present Duty Thus shaming more the foes of Woman's Elevation

Than if she'd ranged the Rostram round the nation For the National Era FATHER BONAN'S ANGEL.

BY ELIZA L. SPROAT. I will tell you of a gentle-hearted old hermit Molly shrank deeper into the thicket of alders, for during the last few moments the visces had seemed to approach her; but she breathed freer when she found they had turned off, and were taking a shorter cut across the meadow toward the house. When vest his youth in all its gloriousness, no one could say; it was not crime, his brow each morning shone too plainly with the night angel's kiss of peace; it was not coward slothfulness, for never the sun came peeping so early that it found him not at books or toil; it was not that compound of all selfishness, misanthropy, for scarcely on the face of mother, or angel, or little child, could be found a lovelier smile of trusting welcome than greeted the pilgrim to Father Ronan's cave.

And it was not strange as you will agree that many should claim the ever-ready welcome; for, apart from the certain gain to mor-bid, dyspeptic sonls, of commune with a true and healthy spirit, there was here a further charm-to which few human hearts are proof-

the charm of mystery.

There was something to see in Father Ronan's cave; pilgrims, when questioned, gave vague answers concerning it - there was a something, there was a demon, there was an angel, there was nothing, so they replied; but the villagers observed that when, at rare in-tervals, one said that he had seen the angel. the face of that man ever after wore a look of inward prescience, as if, amid the chaos of doubts and terrors, and vague unanswerable questions that haunt the human brain, some ne certainly abode with him evermore.

So, coolly discarding all answers that disagreed with their solutions, the villagers chose believe that there really was an angel in Father Ronan's cave. I went to see."

I was young then, and youth is arrogant of ts powers; I said, I will not only see, but solve. this mystery of the cave.

I stood in the hermit's cell, and told my errand: the old man smiled upon me thought-fully. "And thou would st discover the secret of my cavern ?" he said, in gentle incredulity. Thou would'st solve at a glance the riddle Not a doubt on't, Leftenant, not a rational doubt on't. Don't I know that the old wolf's teeth are all-fired sharp, and a fellow don't slip through their grip quite so easy? He's attightish along with the Catechism, and I call it—wiswhich a Life has not sufficed me to comprebe who have found naught—many look, few see:" and as the hermit led me farther back

into the narrowing, darkening cavern, he musingly repeated—"Many look, few see."
"Pause," said the old man: the cavern widened in the gloom, one strong sunbeam sloping down the darkness like a ball of fire, clove a precipice at my feet, reaching down and down, till it broke with a sort of visible crash upon a

surface of water, crystal calm.
"I call it my world," said the hermit ling. Was this all? I gazed with longing, dis appointed eyes into the crystal; the depth baf-fled me; the light blinded me; yet I was not unconscious of a Something—a mere vague shadowing, a half-articulate voice, which echo-ed strangely to the hidden imaginings of my

vague, uncertain, changing, troubled counte-nance, which met and melted from my gaze And again it took form, and dimly shone with numan nopes, and aims, and home-thoughts, and jealousies, and the meanest little secret human plots and triumphs; it pictured, withal, a fitful, struggling, stumbling purpose of good; it spoke the often-baffled, ever-eager, Why, that makes the animal human; it breathed through all the death of the struggling of the s deathless discontent, which proves the

What seest thou?" said the hermit. I an wered, "Little."

"And what dost thou comprehend!"

wered, "Naught." And, again, he thoughtfully murmured, selfommuning, "Many look; few see."

I glanced around the cave; my eyes, grown used to the darkness, perceived other pilgrims drawn by report or pleasure, or the uneasiness

of their hearts.

And here I also noticed, for the first time, inge old piece of rock, so situated as to be

support to those who would lean across the vater. This rock was considered an essential safeguard by most of the pilgrims, as I afterwards found.

I spoke of pilgrims, but the very first of these to whom the father beckoned, dispelled at once

my preconceived ideas of a pilgrim proper.

He was a shallow-eyed, mean-faced man, with a certain kind of earthly cunning in his countenance. He seemed to be made of cold, unhealthy fiesh, and looked altogether not unlike an old potato. He spread his lean hands loosely on the rock, but found it rather hard to keep them from slipping on that support, which indeed, in the course of ages, was growing

caught by the appearance of jewel-sparkles in the crevices; he also examined the peculiar formation and capabilities of the rock itself, over which he pondered some time with a Yankee expression of countenance. At last he shook his head, dismissed the subject, and be-

gan to look curiously into the water. displeased him, we gathered from his frequent muttered expressions of suspicion and disgust. He appeared to be watching, with a disdainful interest, some many-sided game of manœuvreing, and to be equally indignant at all the par-

"Ah, what meanness!" he now ejaculated. "There again.... I couldn't have believed it... That's human nature for you. ... Ha, ha, ha! There's a simpleton done

for. . . . Bah, you hypocrite, what did you expect to gain by that?" While apparently absorbed in his indigna-tion, I noticed that he had taken modest-oppor-tunities of secreting specimens, not only of the principal rock, but of the surroundings gener-ally; this accomplished, he stepped aside, and, with a decorous bow to his successor, took his seat and observed.

A pretty young gentleman, adorned with carments of the daintiest fit and tayture garments of the daintiest fit and texture, now laid his gloved hand delicately on the rock. He must have experienced a variety of illusions; in the first place, and without any apparent cause, he threw himself into quite a series of graceful attitudes; then he smacked his lips, as if a savory dinner passed in review before him; then "a change came o'er the spirit of his dream," his head inclined gently to one side; he smiled all over, and appeared to be in a kind of weakly cestacy. At length he spoke. "Adored creature," he aweetly murmured,

"how may I hope to"——
"Cease!" said the hermit, loudly and stern ly; and at his voice the young person sudden-ly collapsed, disappeared, and was seen no

man appeared to be moulded in softened stone

well permeated with oozy, dark-green veins.

He shambled up to the brink of the chasm, first casting around a glance which seemed to say, "I am no enthusiast-I know some things, expect to be disappointed. Like the other inquirers, he gave us no direc

clue to his experience, but now and then vent-ed his feelings in a groan of dismal triumph; what he expected, he evidently found. After some time gazing intently, in a sort of fascinated disgust, he suddenly turned round, cleared his thront, assumed an attitude, and frowning sternly at nothing, spoke as follows:

"Wo! wo! to this vile and benighted generation. Who shall save them from the wrath to come? Behold, they have put the day of their redemption; they have not the ordinances of the only true sect; the followed after new prophets; they have not the contract of the ordinances of the only true sect; the followed after new prophets; they have not the followed their holy faith in common works; they have hardened their hearts against the customs of their fathers, and they are all in outer dark-

ness together.
"O, how altogether vile is the whole huma family! how weak, how cruel-with what a verily they are fiends from the cradle; and, a before remarked, they are all in outer dark

He paused here a moment, to push back the hair, which the oozing perspiration (for he was an eloquent man) had glued in clammy flakes upon his forchead. Then he resumed, still cowling fiercely into the general air

"Repent, O sinners! Return once more to the guidance of your spiritual fathers. Fly the fatal hope in human works, which are but the snares of Satan; strengthen your souls with the creeds of your ancestors; gird on the whole armor of the catechism; rouse your sleeping zeal in foreign missions; reverence the clergy; pay your pew rents. Repent! repent! or ye are lost forever."

And here again the pious man took breath relaxed into a melancholy smile; his natural scowl was suddenly muffled in meckness, and, with a praiseworthy simplicity and ab sence of carnal pride, he took off his hat, and with his own hands held it in succession each of the assembled pilgrims.

Having by this time neared the entrance, h looked with a melancholy scrutiny at the col-lections, and, casting a glance of forgiving benediction on the donors, shambled gradually from the cave. O magic garment of youth, that covereth a multitude of failings! O enchanted light of

youth, wherein every weakness looks a glory. and every folly a charm! O beauty, detbroneless autocrat of the mil

lions, so long as human hearts retain their humanity shall thy smile suffice thee for sceptre, and thy naked brow for a crown! It was only a rosy girl, who now stepped from behind the hermit; a simple child, whose

arm no strong angel would ever borrow to fur-ther his world-work; whose lips no courier from heaven would ever think to touch with his message of prophecy; a mere bud of a woman, with the baby-dimples not yet out of her round soft arms; yet, as she stood there in the halo of her innocent beauty, my soul fell down before her, in ready, unreasoning revercircling the rock, her mouth half parted in

eager dreaminess, her head bent down till the rich warm cheek was lying close against the stone. As she stood thus, I forgot to think what purpose had brought her. I saw but the flow of curls, and curves, and dimples, and the brown liquid glory of young, soft eyes, and the living crimson delicately threading through living crimson delicately threading through the ripe, dainty flesh—the whole inexplicable magnetism of perfect physical life. Doubtless the young girl saw, but, after her first reply to the hermit, she spoke not. Once her face grew pale and troubled; but soon a

change in the vision made her rise, all happy and ashamed, and stand before us a moment,

a little bewildered. And so she passed from our sight.

on, now bowed himself along, and folded both hands conspicuously on the rock. He was a resident in the village, and reputed to be a highly virtuous and wealthy man. What ter rors had the mysterious waves for such an in-quirer? Yet, at the first cautious look, he shuddered from the roots of his well-brushed hair to his respectable gaiters; at the second, the genteel, accustomed smile forsook his face, to leave it drawn into lines of strange, inexplicable fear; yet he drew nearer and nearer the brink, as a bird would lean to the charmer; his white lips parted and quivered, but no sound came. At length, with a mighty strug-gle, he seemed to burst the chain that held him spell-bound, and shricking, a demon! a

demon! rushed, half mad, from the cave. There was a pause, and a silence of conster nation; and then a woman approached—a pil-grim truly she, both in mien and apparel— robed in a long, coarse, iron-colored garment young, but very grave and calm; not beautiful

sorrow's own sublimity.

She stood aspace in silent self-communion; then knelt at the edge of the chasm, and gazing

Long she knelt and gazed, and bent down nearer and nearer, and her lips moved faster: and we felt that she would not go until the very might of her desire had wrested an an-

swer from the silence.
At last she arose, put back the clouds of her allen hair, and then we saw that a great thing had chanced to her soul. Still pale and grave she went out from among us as she came; but as she passed, those near her bent down and touched her feet and her garments, and each man whispered to his neighbor, "She has seen

A tripping foot was heard, and a child stood by the water—a fair boy, with a boy's frank careless bearing. He looked, and stepped back

"But I see Myself!" he said, in smiling sur "Eureka!" cried the bermit, starting for

ward with rapture. "Out of the mouth of babe the Jehovah hath sent us wisdom; blesse through all the worlds be His awful name. Then I looked from one to another of the yet with us; as leaps from cloud to cloud, through all the storm, the light-awakening thunder, so the boy's word struck from heart to heart, and instant Truth flashed up, assent-

ing. And we looked up in each other's faces— some in joyful wonder, some in dismay; and the hermit bowed his snow-crowned head in "Spake I not truly," at length said the old man, rising, "when I called this mountain lake my world? And listen, now, my children, now I know that my words are true: as ye have I know that my words are true: as ye have sounded to-day this cavern chasm, so shall ye seek to fathom the mystery of life; as ye have found in these depths each man his own inter-pretation, so, looking into the outer world, ye shall choose, each man, from its Babel of meanings, that which echoes nearest the gran-

deur or meanness of his soul.

Yet the Infinite includes the partial, and all are true. To the stupid, life is nothing: to the trifling, a trifle; to the sense-bound, a dream; to the skeptic, a chaos; to the conscience-scourged, a hell; to the holy, a dim revealing of the Infinite God.

gyman for the use of his pulpit for a young divine, a relation of his. "I really do not said the clergyman, "how to refus ly collapsed, disappeared, and was seen no more.

Then came a gloomy-looking man, with large loose joints, and damp black hair, and a preach worse, I don't think he's fit to preach

cles round his flaming eyes. Indeed, the whole MOVEMENTS OF THE INDEPENDENT DEMOC-

ILLINOIS STATE CONVENTION OF THE FREE The Illinois State Convention of the Free

Democracy assembled at Union Grove, August 25, for the purpose of nominating Presidential Electors and candidates for State offices. Permanent officers were chosen, as follows wident-John H. Bryant, of Bureau county.

Presidents-Livingston Jenks, of Put-

Presidents—Livingston Jenks, of Putnam: James Strain, of La Salle: and James H. Smith, of Bureau.

Secretaries—Coates Kinney, of Bureau: and B. Clandly, of Putnam.

committee having been appointed to presculations for the consideration of the m, in the afternoon presented the Platform, as a platform of principal committee in the property of the consideration of the Adjourned till morning.

The Convention re-assembled at nine o'clock.

The Convention re-assembled at nine o'clock. Further resolutions were reported, pledging support to the Pittsburgh nominations: ne following:
Resolved, That we recommend the selection f such men to fill our offices as will act most

ficiently against intemperance. Resolved. That we earnestly recommend complete and permanent Conventions and organizations in all the Congressional districts, unties, and townships, in the State, and the

adeption of such measures as will tend to the speedy triumph of our principles. Resolutions were also passed, urging the importance of sustaining an efficient and wellonducted newspaper, for the promotion of the Free Democratic enterprise in this State, and recommending the co-operation of the friends of Freedom in all parts of the State in behalf of the circulation of the Western Citizen, Campaign Citizen, and Anti-Slavery documents

published in that office.

The following electoral ticket was chosen First district, Wait Talcott; second. Am 'hroop: third, Abraham Smith: fourth, A. D. Reed; fifth, John Clark; sixth, J. B. Turner venth, Dr. J. York; eighth, Wm. R. Brown nonth, Cyrus Danforth. State at large, James H. Collins and Rufus Lumery. State officers were nominated, as follows:

For Governor-D. A. Knowlton, of Stephenson county. Lieutenant Governor-Philo Carpenter, of

Secretary of State-Erastus Wright, of San-

Treasurer—Moses Pettingill, of Peoria. Auditor—E. J. Smith, of McHenry. The following named gentlemen constitute the State Executive Committee: Philo Car-penter, Z. Eastman, and T. Richmond, of Chiago; Moses Pettingill, of Peoria; and D. L.

Hough, of La Salle.
The Convention was large, enthusiastic, and determined. Good feeling and perfect har-mony prevailed during its entire sitting. We feel assured that the coming election will prove the Free Democracy of Illinois to be the progressive party.

At a meeting of the Free Democracy to ratify the proceedings of the Pittsburgh National Convention, in Newtown, Fountain county, Indiana, August 21st, 1852, Mr. James McClure was appointed President, and Sam. W. Ritchey On motion the President declared Drs S W

Ritchey and John B. Johnson and Mr. Carder,

a committee to draught and report an expres-

ion of the sense of the meeting. the following resolutions were presented, and unanimously adopted. We present a few, to show the spirit of the

meeting. - Ed. Era.] Resolved, That we hail with delight the comination of John P. Hale for the Presidency and George W. Julian for the Vice Presidency because we regard them as Democrats, true free, and independent, tried, "honest, capable and faithful to the Constitution," whose integrity and talent commend them to the favorable consideration of every liberty-loving Whig or Democrat, whether in the North or in the

Resolved, That the man whose soul was ever warmed by the true fire of Liberty and Free Soil, and now feels like voting for Scott or Pierce, gives sad evidence that he has never been truly converted, or that he has strangely fallen, from a grand and lofty eminence; and that he is in great danger of the fate of Lot's wife, "his salt having lost its sayour," &c.

Resolved. That he work to be a sayour," &c.

Resolved, That to vote for a man for offi and repudiate the platform of principles on which he is elected, is directly at war with an old Democratic doctrine— Principles, not sanction of his principles; inasmuch as you cannot here separate between the man and his principles, no more than you can marry a wife for her gold and beauty, and leave her diseases, deformity, broken legs, and disgrace, "to the

dogs."
Dr. Johnson, Mr. Carder, and H. S. Scott, Esq., addressed the meeting.

The Free Democracy of Michigan assembled day, September 1st, at 11 o'clock, and were called to order by F Dennison, Secretary of

the State Committee.

The Committee on Nominations, reported the following names of gentlemen for permanent officers of the Convention: President—Dewitt C. Leach, of Genesce. Vice Presidents— Roswell Ransom, Kalamazoo; S. P. Mend. Wayne; Dr. W. M. Thomas, Kalamazoo; N Allen, Jackson. Secretaries—F. Raymond Wayne, Dr. James S. Bangs, Wayne; W. S. Elliott, Berrien.

Committees were appointed, on Resolution on Finance, on a plan for establishing a news-

public square, at two o'clock P. M.

Two o'clock.—Convention met pursuant to ad journment, when the following resolutions were reported by Mr. Clark, Chairman of the busi-

ness Committee, and were unanimously adopt Resolved, That the declaration of principles adopted by the Pittsburgh Convention meets our entire and hearty concurrence, and we therefore commend it to the electors of Michi-gan as an admirable compendium of political truth, and eminently worthy of the support

JULIAN are ratified by this Convention with one unanimous and enthusiastic voice; that they are the men, and just the men, to represent us in the contest now going forward, of right against wrong, hope against despair, of Freedom against Slavery.

Hon. J. R. Giddings was then introduced to the Convention, and for an hour and a half was listened to with breathless attention, clear-

was istened to with breathless attention, clear-ly showing that there are no points at issue between the two great political parties of our country, that they are but the wings of the great slavery party, that the South dictated the platforms upon which they stand, and that freedom has nothing to expect from either.

Mr. Lewis was then called upon, and addressed the Convention, only as Samuel Lewis can do, and enchained that vast audience for two hours.

The Business Committee, through their chair-

man, reported the following resolutions, which

man, reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this Convention, there is no question of State policy to be presented to the next Legislature, which compares in importance with the duty to deliver the people from the vice, suffering, and curse, which flows from the unrestricted sale of intoxicating liquors; and that we believe a law similar to that enacted by the State of Maine is absolutely necessary to accomplish Maine is absolutely necessary to accomplish the Democracy of Madison county to-day. The

Resolved, That the Free Democracy of this State be invited to meet in Mass Convention at Kalamazoo, on Wednesday the 29th day of September, at 2 o'clock P. M., to nominate candidates to be supported at the ensuing election, for Presidential electors and State offi-cers, and to take such measures as may be necessary to perfect a complete organization of

the party in this State. Resolved, That a committee of five be ap ointed, as a State Central Committee, who luties shall be to further the organization in counties and towns, and to procure documents

and information for circulation. The following gentlemen were appointed that committee: H. K. Clark, Erastus Hussey Calhoun: S. B. T. Yer, S. A. Baker, Wayne P. W. Childs, Washtenaw.

FREE DEMOCRACY STATE CONVENTION

A Convention of the Free Democracy of the State of New York will be held at the City Hall, in the city of Syracuse, on Wednesday the 29th day of September next, at 12 o'clock M., for the purpose of nominating candidates to be supported at the annual election, and Presidential electors, and for the organization of the party in the State. Each Assembly dis-

A Mass Convention will be held at the same

lace on the following day, the 30th C. A. WHEATON, Syracuse, Onondaga co E. J. Chase, Lockport, Ningara co.

trict will be entitled to one delegate in the

E. H. Fox. Richland, Oswego co.

C. O. Shephard, Areade, Wyoming co A. O. Wilcox, New York city. S. E. Church, Hamilton, Madison co. E. H. STEWART, Buffalo, Erie co. August 31, 1852. State Committee

The above committee was chosen at the Pittsburgh Convention, by the delegates from this State, to serve until the State Convention shall be held, when a new committee can be appointed.

Having had the honor of being made Chair-

man of this Committee, I will in this connection say, that I hope we may have a large Mass Convention, in addition to the regular delegates. The apparent check given to the rising spirit of hostility to the encroachments of the

power over the Free North, occasioned by the defection of some, to whom we looked as lead-ers in this great Reform, and from whom we expected better things, renders it very important that every one, in whose bosom the love of freedom still exists, to gird himself anew for the approaching conflict.

The ground taken by the Pittsburgh Con ention is, that we should leave the old Whig and Democratic parties, as Lot left Sodom

Conventions at Baltimore, so that now the duty of saving the country from impending ruin is devolved upon some other instrumentality than those old parties. That instrumentality is now provided; "Free Democracy" is its name; and in behalf of the undersigned gentlemen, besides the committee,

Their hopeless servility to the behests of Sla-

very was signed and sealed at their National

I invoke the presence of all true men at the approaching State Convention. CHAS. A. WHEATON, Chairman The following are among the names of such as have written me, expressing great interest in the movement initiated at Pittsburgh, their anxiety for an early State Convention, and

connection with this call: Hon. Seth M. Gates, Wyoming county: D. D. T. Marshall, New York city; J. D. Sawyer. Williams Avery, W. Mathewson, Ezra Gibbs Chenango county; A. Babcock, A. Chubb, J. Boynton, Jas. Lewis, Y. A. Brown, P. Thomp-Boynton, Jas. Lewis, Y. A. Brown, F. Thompson, A. Hutchinson, A. S. Backus, B. Kenyon, William J. Babbett, A. Servos, W. Wilson, J. Marsh, C. Robinson, H. N. Bushnell, B. Hopkins, S. Webster, O. Monhouse, H. Bach, D. Jones, A. Willard, J. Babbitt, Orleans county; Hiram Gardner, Esq., J. P. Murphy, Niagara county: A. H. Bartow, H. Brewster, J. P. Darling, A. Brewster, S. Comstock, Genesee county; Wm. S. King, Otsego county; David Corey James C. Jackson, G. K. Stiles, Cortland county; Chas. B. Sedgwick, Charles Land, James M. Munroe, Enoch Marks, E. L. Soule, Nathan

Soule. Onondaga county. EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE

Ashland, Ohio.-Light is beginning to shine into this dark region. Let me state a fact Last fall, S. Lewis got just one vote in this township, for Governor: John P. Hale will receive not less than thirty-five votes in this township next fall. The club for your paper would be much enlarged, were it not for the strong determination of our friends to support our home Free Soil press; which is all right, or

Geneva, Walworth county, Wis., Aug. 26 .-Enclosed you will find six dollars 40 one-year subscriptions to National Era, &c. Send to the

following-named persons.

The nominations at Pittsburgh are received with great enthusiasm. The Free Democracy hold a ratification meeting the first of Septem ber, at Elkhorn, in this county, where free will meet freemen, resolved yet to be free. You will hear from Walworth county after the ides of November, and from me again soon with another hatch of subscribers.

Hemlock Lake, Livonia county, New York.— Enclosed I send you \$10 for club subscribers as above, and one yearly.

My success has been so good that I will make further effort, when I hope to make ad dition to the list at this office and at Livonia. These subscribers have been members of th Whig and Democratic parties, but are dissatisfied with the Baltimore platforms, and most of them say they will "go it" no longer. The Pittsburgh platform is well liked here, and will get a hearty support.

enclose six dollars, as the subscription for four new subscribers to the Era. I saw in the Era that a voluntary agent is entitled to fifty cents commission on every new yearly subscriber and being interested in the Free Soil move-ment, I knew I could not forward the cause more effectually than in circulating the Era.

The Era is the pioneer of votes for Freedom where the former goes, the other follows: there fore it is our interest and our duty to circulat

Keokuk, Iowa, August 20 .- I read the Era and send it into the country. It is becoming a favorite with the host of Land Reformers, and I hope soon to send you a list of subscribers. We can raise a loud shout for "Free Soil and Free Men." within a league of Missouri! The

Greenville, Ct., August 30 .- We enclose you live dollars from a club of ten for the Era four months, as you proposed in your last paper.

We reside in a small village, take quite a number of your papers, and have for years; but the true principles of Free Democracy are growing and increasing among us. We proposed to get up this club this morning, and in a short time we made up the number.

We expect to send other names in addition We expect to send other names in addition

Bloomington, Ind., August 23.—I again trouble you with a few lines, to order the Era for the following individuals for one year.

Enclosed you will find six dollars, &c.

We hope to live to see the day that Indiana will be redeemed from her deep-dyed Hunkerism. You can see by my tremulous hand, that if it comes in my time it must come quickly; but assured I am that it will come ere long, whether

a not very strong, but exquisitely sweet voice snatch from a well-known popular song—